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accordance with Art. 76 EPC:  
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(54) **METHODS AND VECTORS FOR CELL IMMORTALISATION**

(57) The present invention relates to a method and to vectors for the immortalisation of cells independent of their type. It further relates to a cell or a cell line produced with the method or the vectors of the invention. The invention also relates to the use of this cell or cell line in *in vitro* applications and in the treatment of disease.

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**PARTIAL EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT**

Application Number

under Rule 62a and/or 63 of the European Patent Convention.  
This report shall be considered, for the purposes of  
subsequent proceedings, as the European search report

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| DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT                                                                                                                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                                                                                                |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Category                                                                                                                                                                                                                | Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages                                                                                                                  | Relevant to claim                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (IPC)                                                        |
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|                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | C12N<br>C07K<br>A61K                                                                           |
| <b>INCOMPLETE SEARCH</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                                                                                                |
| The Search Division considers that the present application, or one or more of its claims, does/do not comply with the EPC so that only a partial search (R.62a, 63) has been carried out.                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                                                                                                |
| Claims searched completely :                                                                                                                                                                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                                                                                                |
| Claims searched incompletely :                                                                                                                                                                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                                                                                                |
| Claims not searched :                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                                                                                                |
| Reason for the limitation of the search:<br>see sheet C                                                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                                                                                                |
| Place of search                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                | Date of completion of the search                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | Examiner                                                                                       |
| Munich                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                | 30 November 2017                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | Hornig, Horst                                                                                  |
| CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                | T : theory or principle underlying the invention<br>E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date<br>D : document cited in the application<br>L : document cited for other reasons<br>& : member of the same patent family, corresponding document |                                                                                                |
| X : particularly relevant if taken alone<br>Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category<br>A : technological background<br>O : non-written disclosure<br>P : intermediate document |                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                                                                                                |

EPO FORM 1503 03.82 (P04E07)



## PARTIAL EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

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| DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT |                                                                                                                                                     |                   | CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (IPC) |
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| DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                   | CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (IPC) |
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| DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                   | CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (IPC) |
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EPO FORM 1503 03.02 (P04C10)

**INCOMPLETE SEARCH  
SHEET C**

Application Number

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Claim(s) completely searchable:

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Claim(s) searched incompletely:

1-15

Reason for the limitation of the search:

1. The present claims 1 and 13 relate to an extremely large number of possible compounds/products/apparatuses/methods. Support and disclosure within the meaning of Articles 84 and 83 EPC are to be found, however, for only a very small proportion of the compounds/products claimed (Table 5). Non-compliance with the substantive provisions is such that a meaningful search of the whole claimed subject-matter of the claim could/can not be carried out (Rule 63 EPC and Guidelines B-VIII, 3). The extent of the search was consequently limited to the preferred embodiment indicated in the claims, wherein the at least one gene or gene product was selected from each of at least two of the categories (a1), (b1) and (c1), wherein (a1), (b1) and (c1) is: (a1) Id2; (b1) Nanog; (c1) Fos and/or Myc.

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For more details about this annex : see Official Journal of the European Patent Office, No. 12/82

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